

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Akihiko TAKEUCHI et al.

Title: BLOOD PRESSURE-LOWERING AGENT, VASCULAR FLEXIBILITY-AMELIORATING AGENT AND FOODS HAVING THEIR FUNCTIONS (As Amended)

Appl. No.: 10/542,344

Int'l. Filing Date: 1/16/2004

371(c) Date: 1/9/2006

Examiner: Michael V. Meller

Art Unit: 1655

Confirmation Number: 2707

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed March 12, 2007, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 12, 17, drawn to a method of lowering blood pressure. This election is made **with traverse**.

Applicant submits that Group I and Group II have in common the blood pressure lowering activity of the recited materials, which activity the prior art does not suggest. Accordingly, all of the claims in Groups I and II embody this "special" technical feature and should be examined at this time.

Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 10 April 2007

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5404
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By S. A. Bent

Stephen A. Bent
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 29,768